

**CAPSULE SUMMARY**  
**BA-1816**  
**James Freeland House**  
**135 Church Lane**  
**Cockeysville, Baltimore County**  
**Circa 1881**  
**Private**

Constructed circa 1881, the James Freeland House is representative of the few single-family dwellings remaining along the Church Lane corridor in the small community of Texas and reflects the late 19th century history of the town of Texas as it grew from a small limestone quarry town established in the early 1800s. The dwelling, most likely inhabited by the family of a worker in the local industry, is directly related to the industrial history of the community.

The James Freeland House is a two-story, two-bay wide vernacular dwelling located at 135 Church Lane. The building's exterior materials have been considerably altered since its construction, and the dwelling now stands in disrepair. The single-pile, rectangular house fronts north and has a one-and-a-half-story, one-bay-deep ell that extends to the south flush with the east elevation. The house features a solid parged stone foundation, side gable roof clad in asphalt shingles and vinyl wall cladding. A single flush-and-lighted single-leaf wood door and four 1/1 windows, all of which have vinyl surrounds and sills, pierce the façade, or north elevation. The two windows of the first story are paired with a shared surround. A two-bay-wide porch with shed roof supported by square wood posts shelters the first story of the façade. A stone retaining wall borders the north side of the property, while the west and south sides are marked by gravel driveways.

# Maryland Historical Trust

## Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

Inventory No. BA-1816

### 1. Name of Property (indicate preferred name)

historic

other James Freeland House

### 2. Location

street and number 135 Church Lane not for publication

city, town Cockeysville vicinity

county Baltimore County

### 3. Owner of Property (give names and mailing addresses of all owners)

name Walter L. Brewer, Jr. and Jane M. Brewer

street and number 212 Morris Avenue telephone Not Available

city, town Lutherville-Timonium state MD zip code 21093

### 4. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Baltimore County Courthouse liber 7616 folio 573

city, town Towson tax map 51 tax parcel 237 tax ID number 0806057325

### 5. Primary Location of Additional Data

- ☐ Contributing Resource in National Register District  
☐ Contributing Resource in Local Historic District  
☐ Determined Eligible for the National Register/Maryland Register  
☐ Determined Ineligible for the National Register/Maryland Register  
☐ Recorded by HABS/HAER  
☐ Historic Structure Report or Research Report at MHT  
☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_

### 6. Classification

Category	Ownership	Current Function	Resource Count
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	Contributing
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce/trade	Noncontributing
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> defense	<input type="checkbox"/> buildings
<input type="checkbox"/> site		<input type="checkbox"/> domestic	<input type="checkbox"/> sites
<input type="checkbox"/> object		<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> structures
		<input type="checkbox"/> funerary	<input type="checkbox"/> objects
		<input type="checkbox"/> government	<input type="checkbox"/> Total
		<input type="checkbox"/> health care	
		<input type="checkbox"/> industry	
		<input type="checkbox"/> landscape	
		<input type="checkbox"/> recreation/culture	
		<input type="checkbox"/> religion	
		<input type="checkbox"/> social	
		<input type="checkbox"/> transportation	
		<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	
		<input type="checkbox"/> unknown	
		<input type="checkbox"/> vacant/not in use	
		<input type="checkbox"/> other:	
			Number of Contributing Resources previously listed in the Inventory
			1

## 7. Description

Inventory No. BA-1816

### Condition

<input type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> deteriorated
<input type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> altered

Prepare both a one paragraph summary and a comprehensive description of the resource and its various elements as it exists today.

Constructed circa 1881, the James Freeland House is a two-story, two-bay wide vernacular dwelling located at 135 Church Lane. The building's exterior materials have been considerably altered since its construction, and the dwelling now stands in disrepair. The single-pile, rectangular house fronts north and has a one-and-a-half-story, one-bay-deep ell that extends to the south flush with the east elevation. The house features a solid parged stone foundation, side gable roof clad in asphalt shingles and vinyl wall cladding. A single flush-and-lighted single-leaf wood door and four 1/1 windows, all of which have vinyl surrounds and sills, pierce the façade, or north elevation. The two windows of the first story are paired with a shared surround. A two-bay-wide porch with shed roof supported by square wood posts shelters the first story of the façade. A stone retaining wall borders the north side of the property, while the west and south sides are marked by gravel driveways.

## 8. Significance

Inventory No. BA-1816

Period	Areas of Significance	Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> health/medicine	<input type="checkbox"/> performing arts	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> invention	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-1999	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment/ recreation	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion	
<input type="checkbox"/> 2000-	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> ethnic heritage	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science	
	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/ settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> social history	
	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning		<input type="checkbox"/> maritime history	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation	
	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation		<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> other:	

<b>Specific dates</b>	circa 1881	<b>Architect/Builder</b>	Unknown
<b>Construction dates</b>	circa 1881		

Evaluation for:

☐ National Register

☐ Maryland Register

☒ not evaluated

Prepare a one-paragraph summary statement of significance addressing applicable criteria, followed by a narrative discussion of the history of the resource and its context. (For compliance projects, complete evaluation on a DOE Form – see manual.)

Constructed circa 1881, the James Freeland House is representative of the few single-family dwellings remaining along the Church Lane corridor in the small community of Texas and reflects the late 19<sup>th</sup> century history of the town of Texas as it grew from a small limestone quarry town established in the early 1800s. The dwelling, most likely inhabited by the family of a worker in the local industry, is directly related to the industrial history of the community.

Settled as early as 1801 by John Clark, the community now known as Texas, Maryland, was originally referred to as Clark's Switch. Over the next decades, the numerous quarries and mining opportunities surrounding the area drew many people to the settlement at Clark's Switch, which was soon known as Clarksville, and then as Ellengowan.<sup>1</sup> Throughout the 19<sup>th</sup> century, Texas was well known as a center for limestone quarries.

The quarrying of Texas limestone for commercial investment began in 1804. The availability of this resource meant prosperity not only for local builders, but also for local farmers, for a large amount of Texas limestone was burned to produce lime for the conditioning of soil. From 1804 until 1840, the quarrying of limestone around Texas increased dramatically, resulting in a total of roughly 50 limestone kilns in operation during the last half of the 19<sup>th</sup> century. In 1877 alone, there were no fewer than 42 lime kilns in or near the center of Texas, most of which were situated along the Northern Central Railway near the town's railroad station. This latter fact is probably due to the ease with which the final product could be shipped out of Texas for distribution and sale to other parts of the county.<sup>2</sup>

By the mid-19<sup>th</sup> century, the community was officially known as Texas. Its change in name was apparently spurred by a nationalistic fervor that overtook the area during the Mexican-American War.<sup>3</sup> The industrial

<sup>1</sup> The Heritage Committee of the Greater Timonium American Bicentennial Committee, Inc., *The Limestone Valley* (Timonium, MD: The Greater Timonium American Bicentennial Committee, Inc., 1976), p. 31.

<sup>2</sup> The Heritage Committee of the Greater Timonium American Bicentennial Committee, Inc., *The Limestone Valley* (Timonium, MD: The Greater Timonium American Bicentennial Committee, Inc., 1976), p. 129; see also *Atlas of Baltimore County, Maryland* (Philadelphia: G. M. Hopkins, 1877), p. 47.

<sup>3</sup> J.C. Sidney, *Map of the City and County of Baltimore, Maryland, from Original Surveys* (Baltimore, MD: James M. Stephens, 1850), n.p; see also John McGrain, *From Pig Iron to Cotton Duck: A History of Manufacturing Villages in Baltimore County*

# Maryland Historical Trust

## Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

Inventory No. BA-1816

Name James Freeland House, 135 Church Lane, Cockeysville, Baltimore County  
**Continuation Sheet**

Number 8 Page 2

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opportunity in the town led to an increasing population in Texas. In 1881, the town's population had reached 649, nearly two and one-half times that of Cockeysville, which was located only one mile to the north. It was at this point in the history of Texas that the James Freeland House was constructed. Although no employment statistics exist for this time period, it is probable that the local quarries or kilns employed the majority of the residents of Texas. With increasing interests in the quarrying of limestone and its location along the Northern Central Railway, Texas then needed to accommodate the needs of its citizens. In 1852, St. Joseph's Catholic Church was founded. To meet the educational needs of children in the town, a schoolhouse was erected prior to 1877 along Beaver Dam Road. In addition, the Baltimore County Poor House was built in 1873 just east of Texas and York Road.<sup>4</sup>

The residential population of Texas lived primarily along the Church Lane corridor, perpendicular to the Northern Central Railway line through the town. Even with its strong economic growth from the 1860s through the 1880s, the citizens of Texas occupied only a small geographic area around the thriving commercial center of the railroad station. Although a few of the more wealthy citizens of the town had larger, more rural properties along other improved and unimproved roads that encircled the town, the vast majority of residential structures were built at the heart of the town.<sup>5</sup>

By the early 20<sup>th</sup> century, the community increased its density without expanding its borders. The town continued to thrive along Church Lane. With increased commercial development to the north of Baltimore City in the mid- and late 20<sup>th</sup> century, however, the population and building stock of Texas has begun a decline. The removal of the grade crossing along Church Lane now prevents passage from York Road through to Beaver Dam Road, and the residential community has been effectively cut off from the surrounding area. Additionally, an increasing number of properties have been purchased and developed by quarry interests, and much of the 19<sup>th</sup> and early 20<sup>th</sup> century residential buildings have been demolished.<sup>6</sup>

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(Towson, MD: Baltimore County Public Library, 1985), p. 324, and The Heritage Committee of the Greater Timonium American Bicentennial Committee, Inc., *The Limestone Valley* (Timonium, MD: The Greater Timonium American Bicentennial Committee, Inc., 1976), p. 31.

<sup>4</sup> J. Thomas Scharf, *History of Baltimore City and County from the Earliest Period to the Present Day: Including Biographical Sketches of their Representative Men* (Philadelphia: Louis H. Everts, 1881), p. 882.

<sup>5</sup> *Atlas of Baltimore County* (Philadelphia: G. M. Hopkins, 1877), p.47.

<sup>6</sup> *Map of Baltimore County* (Philadelphia, PA: G. W. Bromley, 1915), n.p.

## 9. Major Bibliographical References

Inventory No. BA-1816

- Atlas of Baltimore County, Maryland.* Philadelphia, PA: G. M. Hopkins, 1877.  
Baltimore County Historic Inventory  
Heritage Committee of the Greater Timonium American Bicentennial Committee, Inc.. *The Limestone Valley.* Timonium, MD: The Greater Timonium American Bicentennial Committee, Inc., 1976.  
*Map of Baltimore County.* Philadelphia, PA: G. W. Bromley, 1915.  
McGrain, John. *From Pig Iron to Cotton Duck: A History of Manufacturing Villages in Baltimore County.* Towson, MD: Baltimore County Public Library, 1985.  
Scharf, Thomas J. *History of Baltimore City and County From the Earliest Period to the Present Day: Including Biographical Sketches of Their Representative Men.* Philadelphia, PA: Louis H. Everts, 1881. Reprinted by Higginson Book Company, Salem, MA.  
Sidney, J. C. *Map of the City and County of Baltimore, Maryland, from Original Surveys.* Baltimore, MD: James M. Stephens, 1850..

## 10. Geographical Data

Acreage of surveyed property .10 Acres  
Acreage of historical setting Unknown  
Quadrangle name Cockeysville Quadrangle scale: 1:24,000

### Verbal boundary description and justification

Since circa 1881, the James Freeland House has been associated with the 6,300 square feet known as tax parcel 237 of map 51 located in the Baltimore County Tax Assessor's Office.

## 11. Form Prepared by

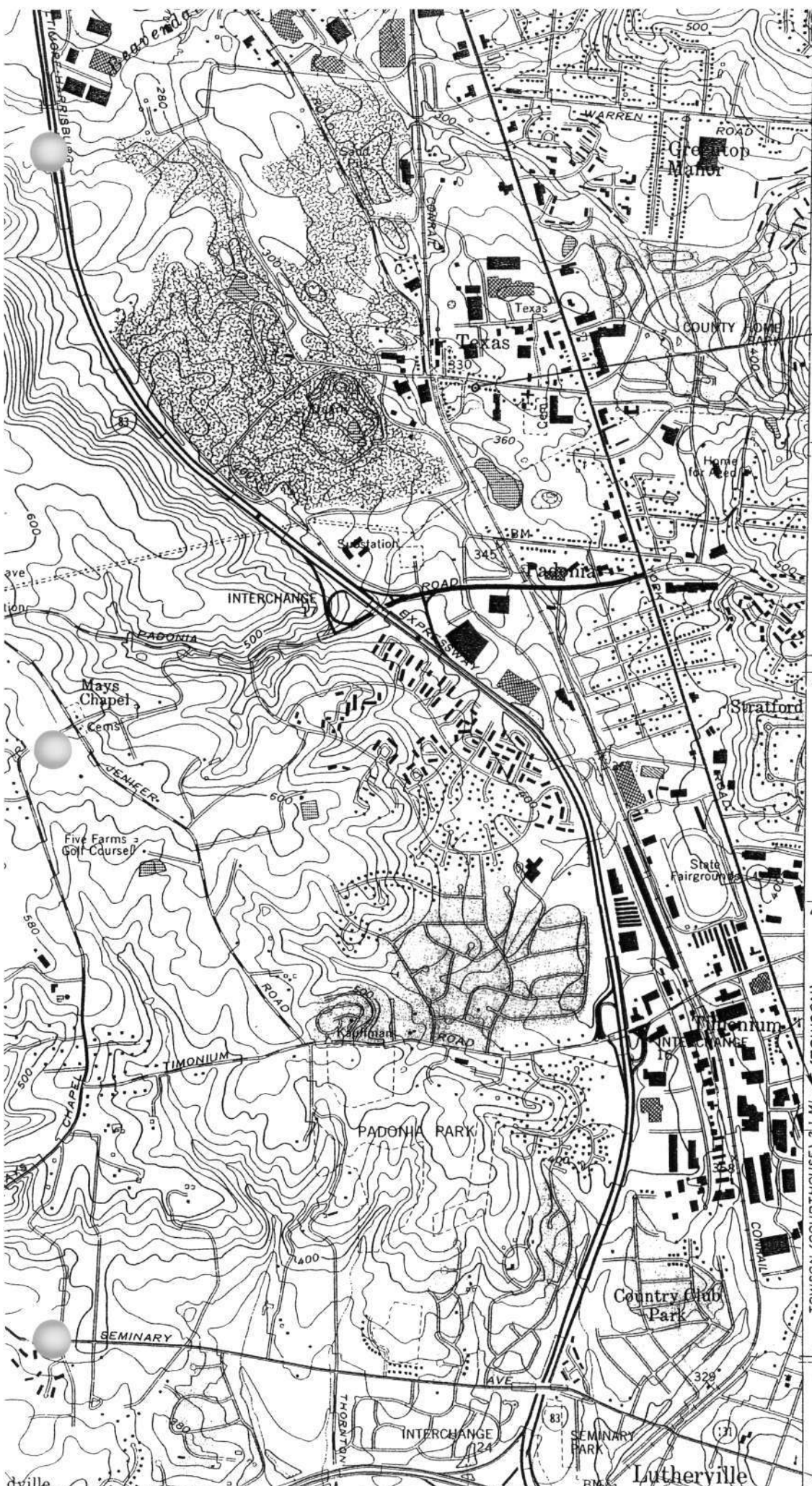
name/title	A. McDonald and A. Didden, Architectural Historians		
organization	EHT Traceries, Incorporated	date	April 25, 2001
street & number	1121 5th Street NW	telephone	202.393.1199
city or town	Washington	state	DC

The Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 supplement.

The survey and inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

return to: Maryland Historical Trust  
DHCD/DHCP  
100 Community Place  
Crownsville, MD 21032-2023  
410-514-7600





USGS Quad: COCKEYSVILLE  
Scale: 1:24,000  
BA-1816  
James Freeland House  
135 Church Lane  
Cockeysville  
Baltimore County



4370

4369

27°30'

4368

4367

5662 I NE  
(TOWSON)  
3.1 MI.  
BALTIMORE (JUNC. U.S. 1) 9.1 MI.

0.5 MI. TO MD. 45  
TOWSON (COURTHOUSE) 3.1 MI.  
BALTIMORE (JUNC. U.S. 1) 9.1 MI.

0.5 MI. TO MD. 45

0.5 MI. TO MD. 45

0.5 MI. TO MD. 45





BA-1816

JAMES FREELAND HOUSE

135 CHURCH LANE, COCKEYSVILLE

BALTIMORE COUNTY, MARYLAND

TRACERIES

4/2001

MD SHPO

NORTHEAST CORNER, CAMERA FACING SOUTH WEST



BA-1816

JAMES FREELAND HOUSE

135 CHURCH LANE, COCKEYSVILLE  
BALTIMORE COUNTY, MARYLAND

TRACERIES

4/2001

MD SHPO

SOUTHWEST CORNER, CAMERA FACING NORTHEAST

## MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

## INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

**1 NAME**

HISTORIC

AND/OR COMMON

**2 LOCATION**

STREET &amp; NUMBER

135 Church Lane

CITY, TOWN

Texas

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

VICINITY OF

STATE

Maryland

Baltimore County

**3 CLASSIFICATION**

## CATEGORY

☐ DISTRICT☒ BUILDING(S)☐ STRUCTURE☐ SITE☐ OBJECT

## OWNERSHIP

☐ PUBLIC☒ PRIVATE☐ BOTH

## PUBLIC ACQUISITION

☐ IN PROCESS☐ BEING CONSIDERED

## STATUS

☒ OCCUPIED☐ UNOCCUPIED☐ WORK IN PROGRESS

## ACCESSIBLE

☐ YES: RESTRICTED☐ YES: UNRESTRICTED☒ NO

## PRESENT USE

☐ AGRICULTURE☐ COMMERCIAL☐ EDUCATIONAL☐ ENTERTAINMENT☐ GOVERNMENT☐ INDUSTRIAL☐ MILITARY☐ MUSEUM☐ PARK☒ PRIVATE RESIDENCE☐ RELIGIOUS☐ SCIENTIFIC☐ TRANSPORTATION☐ OTHER:**4 OWNER OF PROPERTY**

NAME

James E Freeland

Telephone #:

STREET &amp; NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code

**5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

COURTHOUSE.

REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC. Baltimore County Courthouse

Liber #: 1171

Folio #: 520

STREET &amp; NUMBER

Courthouse Square

CITY, TOWN

Towson Maryland

STATE

**6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE

DATE

☐ FEDERAL ☐ STATE ☐ COUNTY ☐ LOCALDEPOSITORY FOR  
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

**7 DESCRIPTION****CONDITION**

☐ EXCELLENT  
☒ GOOD  
☐ FAIR

☐ DETERIORATED  
☐ RUINS  
☐ UNEXPOSED

**CHECK ONE**

☒ UNALTERED  
☐ ALTERED

**CHECK ONE**

☒ ORIGINAL SITE  
☐ MOVED      DATE \_\_\_\_\_

**DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE**

The two storey house at 135 Church Lane has a stone foundation and off white asbestos shingles which cover the original clapboards attached to the balloon frame. The house is two bays wide and has a main block and a wing in the back of the house(south). The chimney is located in the middle of the gable roof of the wing of the house. The front door is wood, located in the east bay of the north facade of the first storey. Three wood posts support the shed roof porch which has green shingles. The cement floor of the porch is most probably covering a wood floor. The windows of the first and second stories of the north elevation of the house have 6/6 lights and wood frames.

The east side of the house is three bays deep on the first storey. There is a 6/6 light window in the south bay of the wing. The main block has two windows, the one in the south bay has 4/4 lights and there is a 6/6 light window in the north bay. These windows all have wood frames. There is a wood door located in the first storey, south bay of the wing on the west side of the house and there is a 6/6 light window in the north bay. There is a 6/6 light window located in the north bay of the main block on the second storey. The wing of the house seems to possibly be an addition. There is a wood shed behind the house.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY



**8 SIGNIFICANCE**

PERIOD		AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)	
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION			

community Streetscape

SPECIFIC DATES

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

## STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

135 Church Lane is typical of late 19th century or early 20th century vernacular architecture, using natural materials such as stone from area quarries.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

**9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES**

Various Land Record Libers in the Baltimore County Courthouse

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

**10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA**

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY \_\_\_\_\_

## VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

Beginning for the same at a stake planted on the south side of county road leading from Texas to the turnpike and at a point south seventy nine degrees east one hundred four feet five inches from a stone planted on the south side of said road thence running with and bounding on south side of said road south 79 degrees east 63 feet until it intersects the northwest corner of the lot now or formerly owned by Owen Monehan thence binding on the west side of said lot as now bearing

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES  
 south 12 degrees 15 minutes west 100 feet thence north 79 degrees west 63 feet and thence north 12 degrees 15 minutes east 100 feet to beginning.  
 STATE COUNTY

STATE

COUNTY

**11 FORM PREPARED BY**

NAME / TITLE

Mary Sue Greisman

Dec.13,1978

ORGANIZATION

DATE

STREET &amp; NUMBER

Goucher College

TELEPHONE  
821-9322

CITY OR TOWN

Towson Maryland

STATE

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature, to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 Supplement.

The Survey and Inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

RETURN TO: Maryland Historical Trust  
 The Shaw House, 21 State Circle  
 Annapolis, Maryland 21401  
 (301) 267-1438

135 Church Lane

<u>Grantor</u>	<u>Grantee</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Liber/Folio</u>
John Kilroy et al	James E Freeland	Sept.2, 1941	1171/520
Daniel Colbert	Mary Lindsay	Oct.3, 1895	213/521 *
Edward Fitzgerald	Daniel Colbert	Nov.26, 1883	138/553 **
<u>Lease</u>			
John P Clark & wife	Edward Firzgerald	Jan.27, 1881	120/156

\* mention made- together with the buildings and improvements thereupon,  
errected,made or being.

\*\*mention made- cost 285.00 - being same lot of ground that was leased  
to Fitzgerald by John P Clark and wife.

BA-1816

